



Geometry

Course Syllabus

2017-2018

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What is this course about?

Math is about relationships. In geometry, we study the properties of geometrical objects—such as lines, circles, angles, and polygons—and the relationships between them. We study these objects so that we can use them in models that help us to understand the real world around us.

What will the curriculum look like?

Our curriculum is aligned with the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics and culminates in the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC). You will be asked to take on challenging and meaningful problems that you *have not already been taught to solve* and work toward a creative solution. If this makes you uncomfortable at first, be open-minded. You will learn more, and you will develop skills and attitudes that can help you be successful in college and in the workplace.

One of my goals this year is for you to be able to explain everything you are learning. We will do as much hands on, real-world learning as possible.

General Course Schedule:

- Introduction to Geometry
- Transformations
- Angles and Triangles
- Triangle Congruence and Polygons
- Similarity
- Trigonometry
- Area and Volume
- Circles

Text: *Geometry*, McDougal Littell

Supplies:

- 1 **PURPLE** 1” binder just for Geometry with 5 dividers
- 3 lead pencils WITH A MANUAL PENCIL SHARPENER or mechanical pencils with extra lead*
- **TI 34 Multi-View Calculator (or other calculator approved by teacher)– REQUIRED!!**
* ABSOLUTELY no pens may be used. Our rule is: “**Do it in pen, do it again!**”

Grading Policies:

To Calculate Each Quarter Grade:

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Tests/Projects | 45% |
| Quizzes | 25% |
| Homework | 15% |
| Participation/Classwork | 15% |

To Calculate the Year Grade:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Semester 1 (50% Q1; 50% Q2) | 40% |
| Semester 2 (50% Q3; 50% Q4) | 40% |
| Cumulative Final Exam | 20% |

The grading policies are an estimation of how your grade will be determined. The instructor reserves the right to take into account other factors such as improvement, effort, and other intangible factors when determining your course grade.

Tests, Quizzes and Projects

Students will take a test after every unit. Tests will consist of multiple choice, short-answer and problem-solving problems. Each test will focus on the preceding chapter but will require mastery of previously-learned material.

There will be a FINAL EXAM in June worth 20% of the year grade.

Students will take multiple quizzes during each unit. These quizzes are shorter than tests and focus on the skills learned in the previous few lessons. Quiz scores will provide indicators of how a student will perform on a unit test. Therefore, students may retake quizzes in order to achieve mastery of a topic. The retake procedure is:

1. Complete quiz corrections to the best of your ability.
2. Attend tutorial/study hall to seek clarification and review for the quiz retake.
3. Attend tutorial/study hall a second time to retake the quiz.

There are no retakes on tests. After taking and re-taking unit quizzes, students are expected to be prepared for the summative assessments (tests). Practice tests and study tips checklists are provided in advance to assist with test preparation.

There will be approximately one project per quarter, with some choice available with respect to content and presentation. Students will be given project rubrics, and grades will be determined based upon these individual rubrics. Students will save all graded work in their purple math binders.

Homework

Fifteen-twenty minutes of homework will be assigned daily to reinforce concepts learned in class. By completing homework, students are essentially preparing for assessments every night. Homework is for practice, and is not a summative assessment; therefore, homework is graded on completion rather than accuracy.

Study Sheets: Students will create one study sheet per chapter and should save the study sheets for upcoming tests AND the final exam.

Writing: Writing for math homework is **required nightly** in the following ways:

- *If students cannot solve a problem at home, they must write about the problem. What do they think they should do? What steps have they taken to try to find a solution?*
- Students will answer a geometry question in writing on most homework assignments. Types of writing questions include but are not limited to: writing out a problem-solving process, error analysis, and creating a real-world situation that can be modeled by geometry.

Below is the WLPCS Late Homework/Project Policy:

The point of daily homework is to advance a student's learning through independent practice and/or exploration. Homework and classwork are often intertwined and homework provides the catalyst for a day's lesson. We will therefore not accept late homework; students who turn in completed homework on the day it is due (the degree of completion the province of the teacher) will receive full credit; **students who fail to turn in homework on the day it is due will not receive any credit for that daily assignment.** Exceptions to this policy may be granted for illness, significant family events, or anything else I deem worthy of exception.

Because we take seriously our responsibility to teach students how to manage their time and plan for a long-term project, we take a different approach with anything that requires more than one or two days to complete. **Students who complete a long-term project on time are eligible to receive full credit; students who hand in a long-term project one day late can receive no better than a B, and students who turn in a long-term project two days late can receive no better than a C.** At the end of the two-day period, I may decide to give students partial credit for the work they have done on a project or I may decide to give a student a failing grade. Exceptions to this policy may be granted for illness, significant family events, or anything else I deem worthy of exception.

Participation/Classwork

Participation and classwork make up 15% of the total grade. Students will rate themselves each day on their participation, which includes meeting classroom expectations and following all rules of the WLPCS handbook. The teacher will view these ratings daily and adjust them if there is the need. Do Nows, classwork, group work, completing daily exit slips, which include a writing problem, a geometric problem and an optional challenge problem, are also a major part of the participation/classwork grade.

Wikispace/PowerSchool

The middle school wikispace (wlpcsmiddleschool.wikispaces.com) is available for you to check important class information. You can use the Geometry page to find helpful links to math websites, download worksheets, complete brain teasers, and, of course, see your homework assignments and upcoming quizzes, tests, and projects. **THE WIKISPACE SHOULD NOT REPLACE YOUR PLANNER!**

PowerSchool is available for you to use to check your grades. PLEASE utilize PowerSchool before emailing your teacher with questions regarding your grade.

Class Expectations: You must adhere to ALL of the rules in the student handbook.

Specific rules key for success in the math classroom are:

1. Maintain a SILENT Do Now.
2. TRACK and RESPECT the speaker/action of the class.
3. Be kind: WORDS MATTER!
4. PERSEVERE!
5. Peer collaboration and cooperation is key!
6. Be prepared with all of your class materials every day; no locker visits permitted!

Attendance

Attendance is vital to your success in this class. Since our time is so valuable, the policy on absences is necessarily strict: ***unexcused absences*** will result in a loss of participation points for that day and students will not be permitted to make up work from those days.

An ***excused absence*** will not count against you. An excused absence is an emergency or sickness, properly documented by a note from your parent or guardian. Students are responsible for all classwork, homework, tests, quizzes, and projects assigned on a day when they are absent. YOU must ask your teacher for your missing work, and check the wikispace. Please remember to ask for all missing classwork and notes as well as

homework. **You are HIGHLY encouraged to attend tutorial after an absence.** You will have the same number of days to make up the work as you were absent.

Thinking Ahead to High School:

High School Recommendations:

If you are considering attending high school elsewhere and need a recommendation from your teacher, you **must** provide **ten business (ie: school) days** notice, and provide a **self-addressed, self-stamped envelope** for the school. If the recommendation is to be filled out online, the request must be sent to your teacher via email ten business days in advance. Be sure that you fill out all parts of the recommendation that need to be completed by a student or guardian first. Your teacher will mail all recommendations directly to the school; for confidentiality purposes, the forms cannot be returned to you.

Also, please keep courtesy in mind. We prefer that you, the student, ask us in person to complete a recommendation. We will not complete recommendations that we find on our desks or in our mailfolders, unless you have already asked us to complete one.

Honors Courses at WLPCS Upper School:

If you are interested in taking Honors classes next year, you must receive a B+ or higher in this course and must have my recommendation.

Content Resources

- Check out a Geometry textbook for explanations and practice.
- Khan Academy: <https://www.khanacademy.org/math/geometry>
- Blue Pelican Math (not perfect but helpful):
http://www.bluepelicanmath.com/geometry/pdfs/geo_sem1_absent-studentVersion.pdf#page=24
- Investigating Geometry Online (two versions):
<http://teachers.henrico.k12.va.us/math/igo/>
<http://teachers.henrico.k12.va.us/math/HCPSTGeo/index.html>

I look forward to a wonderful school year with you!

Please sign and date the following then detach and return this sheet to the teacher.

My child and I have read and discussed the geometry syllabus. We understand the course overview, the grading rubric, and administrative policies.

Print student name _____

Student signature _____

Print parent/legal guardian name _____

Parent/legal guardian signature _____

Parent Contact Number 1: _____ ***(work / cell / home) circle one***

Parent Contact Number 2: _____ ***(work / cell / home) circle one***

Parent E-mail Address 1: _____

Preferred method of contact (circle one) ***Contact number 1***

Contact number 2

Email

**Is there anything you would like me to know about your child? Please share this information below.*